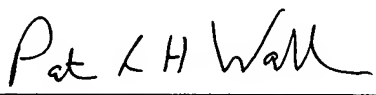


REMARKS

By this amendment, the specification is amended to include the benefit claim to U.S. Application No. 09/839,253, which is a prior-filed, co-pending, non-provisional application. Applicant also respectfully requests entry of the above amendment to amend the priority information. No new material has been added.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.78, this amendment should be considered timely filed. If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Edward P. Ingenito, Applicant*

By:   
Patrick R.H. Waller, Reg. No. 41,418  
Wolf, Greenfield & Sacks, P.C.  
600 Atlantic Avenue  
Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2211  
Telephone: (617) 720-3500

Docket No. B1136.70000US04  
Date: December 22, 2003  
**xNDD**